

February 7, 2022

Chair Atterbeary and Members of the House Ways and Means Committee House Office Building, Room 131 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB432-SUPPORT

Dear Chair Atterbeary and Members of the House Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in support of HB432, which will increase the annual amount of tax credits available for film production in Maryland.

I'm the Business Travel Manager at the Hotel Revival in Mt. Vernon and have worked in the hospitality field for over 10 years in Baltimore. The film industry is an essential market in my field, this last year proves it. During the pandemic hotels had to shut down and corporate business was not happening. I was fortunate enough to secure a partnership with a show that was being filmed in Baltimore. The amount of revenue this production brought in allowed for the hotel to continue to stay open, the staff to keep working and allowed for other business around Baltimore to do the same. This was just one production, could you imagine if we had more filming taking place in Maryland and the positive effect it will have?

I know that we are losing out on film productions to other States because of current tax credit, this is an unacceptable reason and we need to increase the annual amount of tax credits available for film production in Maryland.

Baltimore has some of the Top Art/film schools in the Country; MICA, Peabody and the Baltimore school of the arts. The increase will help provide more work and opportunities for them right in Maryland, they wouldn't have to move to find those opportunities. Filming usually lasts a couple months and would fill empty apartments, hotels, restaurants and provide secure jobs.

I'm asking you to please give HB432 a favorable report. The Economic benefit that this would bring to Maryland is undeniable.

Thank you

Kelly Dinec

Business Travel Manager

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